

DSNS

Division of Strategic National Stockpile

Office for Public Health Preparedness and Response

CHEMPACK

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) CHEMPACK Program is a nationwide initiative for the placement of nerve agent antidotes in local communities. The CHEMPACK program fills a void in emergency preparedness by placing timely, critical and life-saving antidotes in communities where they will be readily available to emergency medical responders.

A CHEMPACK container is a cache of nerve agent antidotes placed in centralized locations to assist first responders to quickly administer life-saving antidotes and save lives. Divided into two types of containers – hospital containers (treatment for 1000 people) and EMS containers (treatment for 454 people) – these assets provide participating state and local governments with a sustainable resource to improve their response capability. All containers are owned, maintained and managed by the Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) to the 54 participating project areas that receive funds from CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement.

Voluntary participation in the program required participating project areas to meet the following criteria:

- *Designate a lead agency and a point of contact to work with CDC/DSNS staff*
- *Identify and maintain secure and climate controlled storage sites that best support their emergency response plan*
- *Integrate CHEMPACK assets into their all-hazards response plan*
- *Identify a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) registrant to accept custody of CHEMPACK materiel*
- *Sign the MOA to partner with the CDC in the CHEMPACK program*

The CHEMPACK pilot program began in September 2002 with three volunteer project areas. In March of 2008, the CDC's Strategic National Stockpile CHEMPACK Program fielded its final project area container, thereby concluding a major preparedness milestone by placing CHEMPACK containers in every state and large city in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii.

CHEMPACK At A Glance

- CHEMPACK Program is a voluntary, nationwide initiative
- Communities provide and maintain secure, climate controlled CHEMPACK storage locations
- Participating Project Areas signed a memorandum of agreement to store and use materiel according to program guidelines
- CHEMPACK materiel is federally owned but locally controlled

Emergency responders with a CHEMPACK container



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

